

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

On page 33, please replace the paragraph from and including line 4 to and including line 19 with the following paragraph:

Figure ~~[[1]]~~ 3 illustrates the change in body weight of the four groups of growing rats during the entire study period. As we have previously demonstrated (Jen *Physiol Behav* 42:551-556 (1988) and Jen et al. *Int J Obesity* 19:699-708 (1995) incorporated herein by reference) those animals receiving the HF diet gained more weight than did those receiving the LF diet. Interestingly Figure 3 demonstrates that those animals receiving diet comprising α -cyclodextrin and fat at a ratio of 1:10 w/w gained weight at a slower rate relative to their respective control groups. Although the control group on the HF diet appears to still be gaining weight at a significant rate, the rate of weight gain of the other three groups appear to have reached a plateau. In this example the animals fed the α -cyclodextrin/high fat diet appear to have gained weight at nearly an identical rate as the animals receiving the low fat diet (4% w/w fat) without α -cyclodextrin. Thus by adding α -cyclodextrin to the diet the animals wherein the amount of α -cyclodextrin is based on the amount of fat in the diet, in this example 4% w/w α -cyclodextrin and 40% w/w fat, the rate of weight gain is significantly inhibited. This is in sharp contrast to previous studies wherein a cyclodextrin composition was added to rat diets did not exert an effect on the rate of weight gain until the percentage of the cyclodextrin composition in the food was at least 58.5% w/w.